NEWS RELEASE

Hon. Robert T. Matsui Member of Congress

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MATSUI SECURES \$100,000 FOR SACRAMENTO SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento) announced today the House of Representatives approved \$100,000 in federal funding for Workreation, a program to help at-risk youth develop work and life skills. The funding was included in the FY 2004 omnibus appropriations bill.

"Workreation provides valuable job opportunities and so much more for the city's at-risk youth," Matsui said. "Youth in this program benefit greatly as they gain a good work ethic, a sense of pride in their community and direction in determining their career options."

The Workreation Program uses a combination of summer employment, education classes and recreation activities to help youths attain their career goals. Participants in the program perform jobs in the community such as graffiti and litter removal, and park maintenance. They learn job interview techniques and resume writing skills. And they are encouraged to keep up the good work through a series of recreational activities.

The program, started in 1981, is sponsored by the City of Sacramento and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA).

The omnibus appropriations bill must now be passed by the Senate and signed by the President.

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